SLASH AND BURN

IN GOAL

Through the Darkest Days

SICK PLEASURE

HARDCORE PUNK FANZINE

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hårh, fuck...

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SLASH AND BURN #4

So here I sit it's my 30th birthday and I am pretty stoked. At first I was pretty bummed out that I was going to be 30 and my friends keep getting younger and my older friends are getting so old. I don't mean older in age either, I mean in the way they do things and the way they live their lives. It sucks to see this happen to people. People think they have to follow this role that is already laid out for them. In high school we went out on Friday and Saturday night since we had to go school all week. All week we would look forward to that Friday night of insane times because it was built up of all week. A week of teachers yelling at you and jocks wanting to kill you. Then Friday night comes and you and your best buds going out drinking/skating or whatever we did in high school. If we drank it would be under some bridge or at some house or we would go to a show. We got used to this pattern. Then as we got older and we got out of school and did the same thing just with work. After we turned 21 we would go to the bar. That's when it hit me when I turned 21 and all my friends started hanging out at the bar. I did a couple times right when I turned 21 but that was it, I could not take it so I stopped the drugs and the drinking and refused to be a part of that culture because that culture to me is fucking death. I went on for the next couple years just trying to hold onto my youth and stay young and not give in. I just didn't get it. I just wanted to play music and skateboard and hang out and live life. This society likes to make you feel worthless unless you follow the path they have given you. The path of high school to college/parties/bars, working a job Monday through Friday then to the bar every weekend where you spend all your money. If you follow that then you're fine. Nobody will question you and nobody will look at you differently. As long as you understand life is about stages and nothing is forever. You move from stage to stage and trend to trend and that is life.

When I first got blue hair my parents and the people around me said "I can't wait for this stage to be over". Years passed and nothing changed I never changed I just got older and older but still nothing changed it all just stayed the same. I still wanted to look crazy and I still wanted to listen to fast music and nothing else. The way the world planned my life for me just was not working. I can only recall one time in my life when the pressures of society really got me. I dropped out of high school when I was 18 years old when I was in 12th grade. I dropped and all the people around me said you're going to be nothing you're just going to work in that pizza place forever and have no future. They said the least I had to do was get a GED which was kind of like a high school diploma but not really. I was fucking scared for the 1st time in my life I thought they were right all along and I was fucked. I thought I had to get my life together. I thought I had to go to school and get a good job or I was going to fucking die alone and broke. I really believed this so I stopped looking the way I did and started going to take these classes to get this GED and a couple months went by and I got it and I felt no different and I just felt used and cheap and even more worthless then I did before I got it. I knew my life was fine I knew that was doing was alright. The things the teachers told me and the guidance counselors said was all bullshit and they just got paid to tell kids to do this or you will fail. What they don't get is life is not about passing or failing it's about being happy everyday you can and living life in a way you feel like living it. That was the biggest eye opener for me then after that I was solid and I knew if I wanted to I could keep riding my skateboard. I could keep working at a pizza shop. I could keep listening to loud music.

Nothing can stop me it's my 30th birthday today and I am stoked to be alive to look in the mirror and be happy about who I am what I have done with my life. I have seen most of the world and I hope to see all of it someday. The other night I was closing the pizza shop I work at and my boss and the owner came in. I was sitting there with my skateboard ready to ride home with walkman on, and I said I cant work the next 2 days because it's my birthday, and he was like no prob how old are you. I was like I'm 30 and and he really looked shocked. Here I am with skateboard and dressed like I am 15 years old saying that I'm 30 in a couple days. It makes no sense to the rest of the world that you would want to do this with your life. Why not just move with the heard and say fuck being yourself. They really want to think that there is only one way to live your life and that's their way. Today I am 30 years old and I still ride my board to the pizza shop I work at. When I get out my time is taken up by playing in bands/listening to records/reading and just hanging out with friends. These are the things that make me happy. I like making pizza for a living so why would I go to school to do something else. Like anything that you take too fast it can be scary, so why not slow down and look at what makes you happy and embrace it. Society will never stop looking down at those who don't follow the heard so why bother caring about the rest of the world. All I can say is when I am too old to work and I have no money because I never had a job with a pension plan I just hope things will work themselves out. We can't worry about what will happen if we don't have this crazy plan for when we get old. No time to be scared only time to live life now.

MOVING ON

So in a couple weeks I am going to play my last show with I OBJECT. The band I have been in for over 4 years. I decided awhile ago I was leaving western ny and I have no plans to ever go back so I think it's time to break all ties with the area. I started doing bands around Grand Rapids and it just made me realize that how nice it is to do a band with all the people in the same town. Also practice is a very important time for the band. I really missed it with I OBJECT. Everything was always so rushed because we only had so much time because we all lived in different areas. It also just seemed like time to call it a day with I OBJECT. Touring and playing in bands is very romantic and spiritual. You roll into some town and you unload all the gear and you play your ass of for 1 kid or 100 kids it does not matter you just play and you do it for yourself. I love touring and just taking this fucked up trips and we come back with 100 stories to tell people. I have stories to fill days at least. I love it I love how real punk and hardcore is done. It's all out fucking go all the time and I think that's the best way to live your life no boundaries no looking back only moving forward. It just was not there anymore with I OBJECT. I just did not feel the urgency when we toured that I need to feel. I can't live a robotic life style it drives me crazy. It's why I decided to spend my life working in small local pizza shops because they are insane. One day I could come to work and the store could be closed or burned to the ground because somebody wanted insurance money. I love it because it's real and out of control at times. I can't wait to start another band that tours and we hit the road with are eyes wide and prepared for anything. The only mission being is to destroy every town we play. If your not feeling it then stop playing in whatever band you play in, because in hardcore we can see right through your bullshit. That's the great think about this you cant fake it you have to be real or we can tell. You can fool some but most of us can see it in your eyes.

A lot has changed with me. Another thing is that I am not SXE anymore. I decided to stop taking part in that after 8 or 9 years. It's not that I am now a total drunk and just get wasted and puke on myself. It's just that I don't feel it anymore and I don't want that restriction on my life anymore. It was the greatest thing I ever took part it really saved my life. When I became SXE I was drunk all the time and I just got wasted and did nothing with my time. I did shows and shit like that but I had no control over myself. Getting wasted was something I did with everything. Now I know right from wrong and I can see my mistakes. For example I would never play music drunk and I would never make pizza drunk why? Well because those are two things I truly love doing and I don't want my mind to be altered while doing those things. Being SXE for so long has taught me about excess and also the company you support while drinking. A while ago I played a house show and they had a keg I HATE KEGS. Kegs are usually some shit ass corporate beer but did anybody care? No, because they could get wasted. The places I support have always been a huge thing with me. I don't drink Coke so why the fuck would I drink Bud there is no difference in the two fuck them both. Being SXE gave me time to reflect and look at my life and think about things and who I am and who I want to be. I am also a firm believer in the fact that if you're not passionate about something anymore then stop doing it because you are just disrespecting it. I see so many punk kids just follow the heard and they want to stay vegan or sxe or whatever because if they don't then somebody is going to talk shit on them. Punk and hardcore are about you and you being yourself you owe them nothing but you owe yourself everything. More and more I have to say I see hardcore and punk lose it's individuality, that is something that cant happen. Life is about learning and what you learn while you're involved with this is important. I have learned so much about life through hardcore. We have to let each other grow and sometimes it sucks because they grow up and out of this but still they have to do thier thing. The only thing we can hope is that they remember all those things we talked about and they take at least some of them with them. For me this thing called hardcore punk may be forever, but maybe not for the person next to me and I have to accept that. For those who hate me because of my recent choices then fuck you I am me and that's something you have to deal with. I owe you nothing.

OUT OF CONTROL

For the past however many years I have been doing zines. It seems in like about half of them I have talked about buying local or shopping at the mom and pop places. Well here we go again. This time I am going to talk a little about buying from stores and not online. I understand buying online can be easy and you get it so fast, and these days maybe the local store do not have what you want, but they could order it, I am sure of it. Also these are stores in your town that need the support. Also for me I like going to record stores and skate shops to hang out talk to people. If these places are gone then what does this leave us? I don't want my life to come down to just getting online to buy something. I want to go to the store and get out of house and get something from a person. A person that's a part of community. A lot of online shops are done by people like you and me that are just trying to make a living, but I just can't take it. I see more and more online shit pop up each day and it just does nothing for me. I can't take it. It all just seems so not real. It's a just a click of a button and every distro is just an online shop now. Record stores are becoming unimportant and people are forgetting the community aspect of local shops. These machines that provide us with the internet cannot replace human life. It would become a very boring life if this is all we had. No more stores no more human contact just get online and get what you need. It all just seems so fake to me. The human brain can't handle the power of the internet it's making us move so fast that we are spinning out of control. We are forgetting the small things in life. The time spent going for a walk or just waiting for that new record to come and going to the store to buy it. Or looking in zines and writing to somebody for records. My best friend just started a new band that I am very excited to hear, but I don't have speakers for my computer and I don't want them because I don't listen to mp3s or anything on line. So I have to wait for the demo I ordered to come in the mail. I can't just listen the songs online once and then just file away in my brain. Your not missing out on anything you can slow down you won't miss anything too important.

ANTI YOU ANTI YO

Give us some info on ANTI YOU when did it start wh y did it start whatever we need to understand the band better .

Paolo: We started playing Minor Threat covers and then Marco from Palermo came in Roma to finally live with his lovely girlie. Marco is the bass player for the awesome Semprefreski, and we didn't lose any second. We literally catched him as he stepped in Roma. And then Andrea came in... Andrea is the third McKaye brother. He has the McKaye face, the McKaye appeal, you know. Is like playing with fucking Minor Threat. I thank any possible god when I play with this McKaye blessed guy.We had to get him to conquer the universe.

PG: Anti You started couple of years ago, by Paolo (the drummer) and me. We used to meet sometimes in the reaharsal r oom to play some cover songs, just for fun, you know, guitar and drums.. then we tought of adding a bass player, and we called Marco, who was already a friend of ours, then the last step was natural: finding someone to scream, and starting to write our own songs. So we called Andrea, who had been playing in bands for years but never sang, and that was it.

Andrea: All I can say is that I joined 'cause they needed a singer I and wanted to try something other than bass guitar. Marco and I were sitting around drinking at some awful show and somehow I talked him into it and then he convinced the rest of the guys.

Marco: when I moved from Palermo I was totally sick of my previous band. The only idea of touring or having to reharse could give me the creeps. But Paolo is such a good friend plus he had a bass to borrow, so it was hard to say no. Then I don't know how me and andrea ended up at a TERROR show. But, as a matter of fact, that is technically where ANTI YOU was born. We owe a lot to those guys, somehow.

Everybody in ANTI YOU is older correct? What get you guys to keep playing fast pissed music at this age?

Paolo: No, actually everybody in the band is old. I am older.
We play fast pissed music because we're nice people loving each other and everybody in the whole world, and - you know - you gotta blow off the steam that accumulates inside while you generally act as a nice guy.

Andrea: Hey, we're not really that old! We're all in our early to mid -thirties, which isn't really that uncommon in hardcore p unk nowadays, at least here in Europe. I don't know what it's like in the States since I've never been there. But over here I know quite a few people in our age group who are still more or less involved in it… whether or not that's a good thing is a differ ent story. And I'm still playing this stuff 'cause it's fun and it's exciting, most of the time. Once I stop enjoying it I'll quit, with no regrets whatsoever. I'm pretty comfortable with the notion that most things have to end, sooner or later.

PG: I'm 30 and I'm the youngest guy… I've been playing in bands since I was 17, and I guess the reason why I'm still doing the same old hardcore shit is because in these 13 years I haven't changed that much as a person. I mean, back then I was pissed and depressed and I loved this fast and angry and simple music that really fueled me and I loved everything that surrounded it, the people, the political aspects, the DIY idea, the shitty dirty places where shows were set up, I loved being different from the average Ita lian guy, etc… so basically I still keep playing it cause I still love all those things. Maybe one day I'll start hating them, or some of them, but so far so good…

Marco: I stopped wondering. I just love playing with my crazy friends, booking shows, having records out with my bands and the label and all that shit. As most bad habits, punk rock is tough to get rid of.

- What I like about ANTI YOU is the lyrics are not political as far as talking

about certian topics but they are ver political when it comes t o the everyday struggle. What do you guys think about the words behind the music in hardcore. What your reason for the anger?

Andrea: It's funny, 'cause except for a couple of songs on our first record I 've never seen my lyrics as the political or personal/political type. They're just my thoughts, mostly bursts of frustration, or contempt, or anger as you put it, made to fit our 30-second songs. I'm not sure how anyone else could relate to them (except for Pig City, but we'll get to that later…), but maybe that's only because writing is something I'm pretty new at and I'm still not su re if I'm doing it right.
The words behind the music are important , and sometimes the balance between the two is just right, like Negative Approach or Discharge or Rites Of Spring or Husker Du, and that's what makes a punk band truly memorable .
But then again, I admit that these days I'll take a great -sounding song with silly lyrics over any Crass record.

Paolo: I like to be able to relate with the lyrics, when it comes to h ardcore music, and I can really relate with the things Andrea writes about.
I think the reason for his anger might be in his pants, but I don't know for sure.

PG: Andrea writes all the lyrics (except a couple that were written by Marco), and actually most of them are not strictly political (I like political lyrics though). Still, everyday life is political in one way or the other, and I guess our lyrics reflect our attitude towards many aspects of everyday life, be it relationships or be it the place we live or be it the "scene" we're in, and how pissed we are about lots of stuff that surrounds us. As for the words behind the music, I guess in hardcore words should come before the music! Which is not happening that much anymore… actually, at this point, h aving read thousands of hardcore lyrics, hardly any of them are gonna change my life or even inspire me that much, as happened sometimes many years ago. But I guess good lyrics, especially when they're really heartfelt and sincere, can still be inspiring t o younger kids, as they were for me.

I have seen alot of retro stuff happening in hardcore these days. What do you think about hardcore today compared to when you first got into it?

Andrea: Hardcore comes in cycles . There's always going to be retro stu ff happening, we're a retro band ourselves!
I don't get the same feelings now compared to when I heard my first punk bands , or read their lyrics, probably because I was 14 back then while this year I'll be turning 34 and I've become a little cynical and le arned to accept that the revolution probably won't be happening any time soon . But I don't think it would be fair to compare current hardcore to the original thing. Sure, maybe it's not new anymore, it's not fresh, it's all been said and done, including what ANTI YOU does, but as long as it's important for those who are into it right now , well then, to me, that's more than enough. If there's 14 year-olds right now who feel like I did back then, I know it'll be alright , regardless of what I think of it.

PG: Hell yeah, lots of retro stuff in hardcore these days! And I'm happy about it. And, I think there is a reason behind it, and it's cause basically what is called hardcore today (which in most cases is not, in my opinion), sucks badly! In the last decade or so, punk has become really popular, and it evolved, and it transformed itself, so now you have metal in it, you have this thing called emo in it, you have I don't know what other kind of bullshit in it, but it's all classified under the main "hardcore" ge nre. Everything is -core. Fuck that. It has nothing to do with hardcore punk, both musically and ethically. It also became all more professional… the shittiest band now is technically ten thousand times better than the average band that was around 10 or 15 years ago, bands have all their expensive equipment (it wasn't like that before!), they make shirts and merchandise and websites before even playing the first show, after a

month it's video time, etc… crap. Of course, there are still good bands who play hardcore and are hardcore, but the scene is so large now that it all becomes mixed up, and most of the stuff that is coming out is really crap, and as I said, has nothing to do with the -core. Drop the -core when defining your band, please!! Example: metalc ore? No, metal!!! Go shoot your video for MTV! So, going back to the retro thing, maybe people are getting tired of all these fake punk hardcore bands, and prefer to go back to the real good old bands and good old sound… and also, maybe now the real good o ld bands want their piece of cake since the cake is much bigger than it was 20 years ago? I think they would deserve it, anyway.

Paolo: Internet changed the whole thing. Back in the days you had to be curious, hungry, you had to move, meet people, do th ings. A lot of friends of mine became small records distributors just to put their hands on records they couldn't find in shops. Now is more like a big library, you have access to many things, maybe too many so you can easily loose the focus and give ju st a little amount of time and attention to every experience. When I got my copy of Millions Of Dead Cops or Bedtime For Democracy i spent days, months, translating all the lyrics, dissecting the cover art, losing myself in any possible detail, also be cause getting one of those records wasn't always quite easy. And yes, there's retro stuff happening but i guess this is happening in every aspect of the 'pop culture', since we've seen it all and looks like there's nothing new people try to recreate wha t was in the past. Sometimes it's a honest effort, sometimes is just corny.

Marco: I won't use the word "retro". It just makes no sense for a lot of reasons: if you're doin' something today, it will most likely have nothing in common with something else that happened 25 years ago under totally different conditions and circumstances. Music -wise, what's happening to hardcore nowadays probably happened to most music genres before: after years of evolving, it got so far from the original pattern, that it natu rally turned back to the roots. What I personally feel about the whole issue, is that today's hardcore and punk are EASY and SAFE. And that makes it total ly different from what I grew up with.

The song pig city whats it all about? Whats pig city mean ?

Paolo: I guess it means a place full of buildings whe re animals that grunt and roll in their own shit live. I might be wrong, though.

Andrea: Pig City is Rome, where we live, but it could be any other large city anywhere else. I have one of those typical l ove/hate attitudes towards the place. I don't think I'd ever move away, 'cause it's beautiful and the weather's great and it's home and my family and most of my friends are here and all that, but at the same time I sometimes wonder why I don't get the hell out, since there's so much about it that I consider insane. To me, Rome is like an overgrown village sometimes, almost as if it grew way too fast for its own good and has all the fucked up things you usually find in big cities and none of the practical, common sense things you need to get by without having a nervous breakdown.
When I wrote those lyrics I didn't have the usual punk rock stuff like the Vatican and the government in mind, even though it's hard not to feel their presence here. I was thinking a bout what I mentioned above, which includes ordinary, every day shit, like random assholes, the aggro, alienation, the hours stuck in traffic.

PG: it's a song about Rome, the city we live in. We love it, we hate it sometimes.

Whats the favorite song the band likes to play, and which one means the most ?

Andrea: O.P.N.D. from our first record. It's a song about hope, we'll see how long it lasts…

WANTI YOU WANTI Y

Paolo: I love to play Clue, from the first cd, but we usually don't play it live. And I don't even know why w e don't. And 'Ask me' was the first song we completed so i feel a parental love for that one.

PG: My favourite are Ask Me If I Give A Fuck (it's the first song we wrote, and it's maybe our most known song), No Questions And No Answers, Pig City. I usually like to play the shortest and fastest songs… well, actually almost all our songs are short and fast!

Marco: I guess it's "no questions" and "ask me If I Give A Fuck". We have a bunch of cover versions that I love to play too, but we always end up never doing those. We don't play "clue" because everyone hates it except you , Paolo.

Tell us about the scene in Italy bands/venue's and whatever else.

PG: What I said about the hardcore not being hardcore anymore, totally applies to Italy too. Still, there a re some really good active bands worth checking out, like DIE!, F.U.G., The Fourth Sin, Comrades, The Difference, Tear Me Down, L.E.A.R.N., Ingegno, La Crisi, Watch Your Step, La Piovra, Coke Rocket, Death Before Work, Headed Nowhere. As for venues, hardco re shows usually used to took place in squats, it was tied to a certain kind of politically active network of people and places, but in the latest years things changed a lot, now most of the shows take place in clubs where every kind of bands play… it's as if hardcore has become just a kind of music, which it was not supposed to be. Luckily there are still squats shows, but they don't happen that often.

Paolo: In Rome we have a quit big scene. This month an antifascist compilation of punk/hardcore bands c ame out, and it has 24 bands in it, and there's many more. The musical level ain't bad, there was a little Oi revival a couple of years ago but i think it's fading out (thanks god) and also the metal contingent is kinda gone. Now it seems the mai n interest is playing fast and we feel at home with that. The venues in Italy are usually squats, some good, some bad. There's some club but i definite ly prefer to play in squats. I'm old and old fashioned.

Marco: I personally like the roman scene a lot. It's one o f the most active in Italy. We have punk shows in squats and a real cool venue called TRAFFIC hosting a billion good bands. There's a bunch of extremely good record stores and labels focusing on the music we like. From a wider point of view, Intellectuals and TAXI are the best acts in Rome in my opinion. DIE! Is the best thing that happened to Italian hardcore in quite some time. But I could really go name droppin' for 2 pages though, so I better stop here.

I am sure alot of touring bands want know this w hay the hell do shows start so late in Rome Italy at that squat? When I OBJECT played that place we played at like 4am and the show started at like 1am. I heard when WHAT HAPPENS NEXT played they went on at like 5am whats the deal?

Andrea: It's gotta be a mix between Mediterranean culture, laziness, unemployment, alcohol, hash and… uh… " anarchism". That's just how it is sometimes, folks , especially on weekends and in the summer. It's ridiculous. So keep that in mind next time you want to book a squat show over here.
When you guys played here you probably had all that, plus the Italy vs. USA soccer world cup game. This country stops for soccer and so do we , 'cause we know that soccer kicks hardcore's ass. Really.

were pretty unlucky! Shows start late 'cause nightlife starts late… you know, people have dinner at 9pm, they relax a bit after dinner, then they get dressed, then they go out, meet their friends, go to the show… all this takes time! Usually people don't show up before 11.30pm or 12, and without people, the show doesn't start! Plus, we Italians like to procrastinate things, you know… we're pretty lazy.

Marco: I know it sucks when you're touring, tired and dirty and you have to get on stage at 3:00 am in the morning. But the Torre Maura squat is a particular case. Still, shows here starts at least at midnight. That's how it goes in Spain too. I don't know, they're warm places and people like to stay out at night. I kind of like it. Sorry.

Can you give us some rad bands to check out past and present and that keep you guys going?

Andrea: Most of the classic American hardcore punk bands you can think of. Most of the classic Italian hardcore punk bands you can think of. Most of the revolution summer D.C. stuff. Born Against. H100's. La Crisi. Smalltown.

PG: As for Italian bands, I'd give you the names above, I'm sure there's many others but these are the ones that comes to mind now, speaking of present bands… while writing this, I've been liste ning to the ETA/Tear It Up split LP… it really kicks ass! Past bands… I think you all know the names! Minor Threat is maybe one of my favorites, along with Dead Kennedys and Circle Jerks, and early Bad Religion. Then… early Italian hardcore bands, especial ly Indigesti. I also like 77 punk a lot… The Clash and The Avengers above all others. Among 90's bands, I'd say Los Crudos, Kid Dynamite, Avail, Born Against, early Endpoint.

Paolo: Among roman bands we're more than brothers with DIE! (And rea plays bass with them) and have a strong friendship with Paybac k and The Fourth Sin. Nowadays there's 3 bands in Italy I think you should chek out: Ingegno from Perugia (metallic frantic drama core), LaCrisi from Milano (fast Indigesti -like with a crazy singer) and F .U.G. from Palermo (old -style hc, just like us).

Marco: Murder by Guitar and Vicious are two recent bands that really made my heart beat. Dean Dirg from Germany rocks too. As for the past: Ramones, Avengers, Descendents, Circle Jerks, Bad Religion could b e a rough top five. But I actually loved everything from Eddie Cochran to RUN DMC.

Any plans to come to the US for a tour? We need more good hardcore from your way coming our way.

PG: No, we have no plans, but we'd love to come over. I was already on tour in the States in the summer of '99 with my first band that was called This Side Up, we did about 40 shows all over the States and it was a great experience, even if things work quite different compared to Europe!

Paolo: I can't even plan what I'll e at for breakfa st tomorrow. The other guys in the band make plans, organize and stuff. I'm t he one who hopes and prays and sometimes mourns.

Marco: Our friend Nat from puke 'n' vomit always asks us to come over and tour California. We never went. This next year, we gotta make it.

Thanks for the time guys please end with anything you would like to say.

Paolo: If you ever come to Rome go to eat gnocchi at A gustarello, via Branca, Testaccio. Brilliant chef, cheap restaurant. O r you can eat at my house, I'm quite a good chef too.

A little while ago I sat down with Al Quint, long time punkrocker and writer for SUBURBAN VOICE, to discuss american hardcore the movie/ book, and the comparison of yesterday versus today, is punk alive, is punk dead
I guess you decide.

Tell me a little about you. When you got into punk, and how long you have been around for? Also what is your place in punk today?

I've been into punk since 1977... "God Save The Queen" by the Sex Pistols was the song that really connected with me, made me want to hear more punk rock. I guess you could call that my "punk rock awakening" or "conversion experience." That's almost 30 years ago. Yikes!

my place in punk? I like to think I'm still pretty active, that I've never lost my interest, even when I may have been attracted to other styles of music. I still like all different kinds of music, but it's obviously punk and hardcore that have had the biggest impact. But I still get out to a lot of shows, mainly DIY these days. I write columns for a few magazines, I'm attempting to kickstart my zine Suburban Voice again and I have a weekly on-line radio show. So, yeah, I guess I've stayed involved.

So you have seen the movie AMERICAN HARDCORE and read the book by Steven Blush correct? Being somebody who has been around through really all of it tell us what you think about it?

I've read the book and seen the movie. Both were enjoyable, but I do have some issues with each. The book had a number of factual errors, for one thing.

The main issue I have is Blush's dismissal of hardcore since 1986. He wrote the following in his book: "As for the current hardcore renaissance, I don't wanna deny the legitimacy of today's teen angst, I just feel like, "Yo, make your own fucking music! Why just ape the music of my salad days?" I can relate to those old Jazz or Blues cats who played back when it was all about innovation rather than formula and who now see a bunch of complacent, umpteenth generation beneficiaries claiming the forms as their own. Face it, hardcore ain't the same anymore. It can still make for powerful music, but it's an over-with art form. It's relatively easy to be into now, but back then it was an entirely different story."

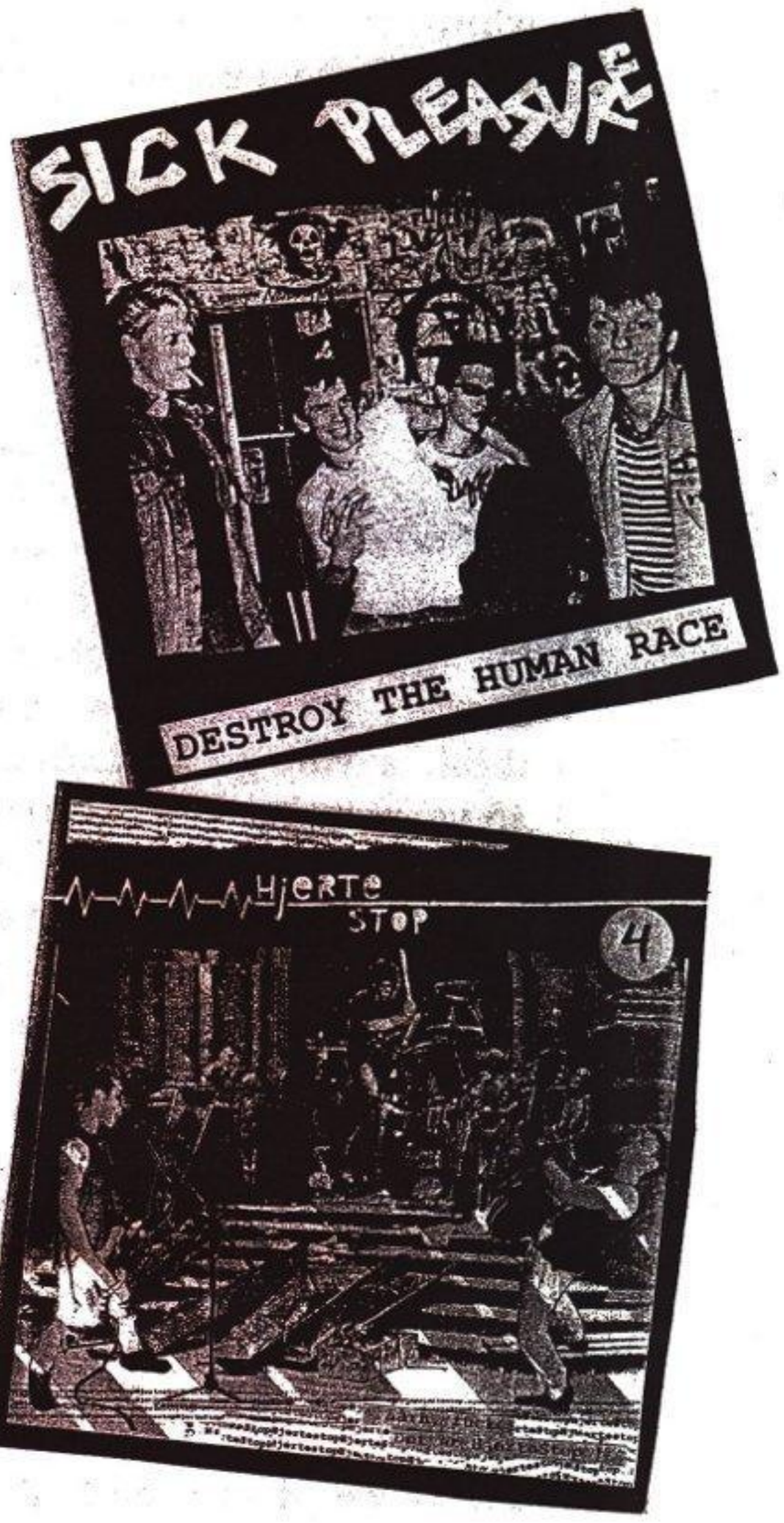
I'd say he's correct it's not the same anymore, in some ways, at least. I have nearly 25 years of listening to this music and, of course, it's unlikely it'll ever completely recapture the feeling I had the first time I heard these bands.

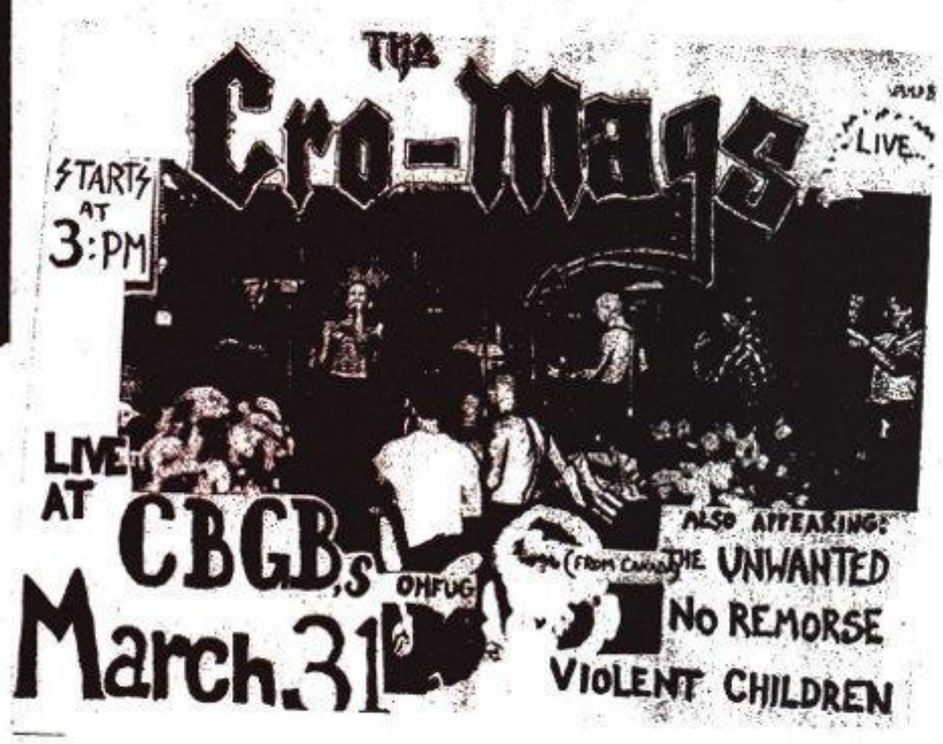
It's true that there's a certain amount of redundancy, repetition, predictability, ritualization etc. But there was just as much of it back then--there was the term "generic thrash." I don't think it's "over with" in any way, though. There are still bands playing with the heart and intensity of someone discovering it for the first time and not all of them are merely "aping" what happened before. Some of these bands try to add their own personality. And if this music isn't particularly groundbreaking, so what? Does the "old guard" have a monopoly on hardcore? They're taking their ball and going home. That's a pretty crappy attitude. It's the "in my day" attitude--the whole "I walked barefoot through ten miles of snow to get to the gig."

Factual errors and that premise aside, I enjoyed the stories in the book. As for the movie, if the filmmaker Paul Rachman and Blush had just made it a historical snapshot, that would be fine. But towards the end, Steve DePace from Flipper and Zander Schloss from the Circle Jerks had comments about punk sucking, etc. They were probably meant half in jest but they're both out there playing the "punk oldies circuit." Leave that out and the movie is a time piece but, by adding it, it invalidates everything that's happened since.

Delving into the contents of the film, I wish the footage had been better and they didn't quickly rush through each clip. Also, I noticed some of the music was dubbed in from recorded versions. It was presented as different scenes and, at times, they'd mention the connections between various cities/scenes, but they didn't all develop independent of each other.

The violent aspect was played up but I think the more communal/community aspects were missed. Not that it was laid back (far from it) but one of the best things about hardcore was connecting with people around the country, with old fashioned correspondence by mail. You'd look through Maximum Rock 'n Roll or Flipside for the





reviews, seeing what gems to mail order, or through the classifieds, trying to find new pen-pals to exchange flyers, records, etc. Zines, in particular, get short shrift. They were an important factor in the spread of hardcore in that pre-internet era and Blush should have spoken with a zine editor or two.

Some bands were missed--the Dead Kennedys, Misfits... they were certainly part of the hardcore scene. Maybe they couldn't get clearance and/or interviews. It doesn't make sense to not include those two significant bands.

After all this nitpicking (and making a novel out of this question), I did like it--some of the stories were hilarious, especially Jack Grisham from TSOL. Even Rollins, who seems to be in ever documentary about music, was spot-on here. I think people should see it--it's not a definitive treatment but part of the picture, at least.

Being an older person in the scene can you relate to this bands getting back together after years and years of having nothing to do with hardcore or punk? Or is it more upsetting that they are coming back since you stayed and they left? For example shows like REAGAN YOUTH/APPLE/THE FREEZE and one more I think just played at CBGB's. I can't understand this and I also can't tell if it's fucked up or just friends getting back to together to pay tribute to back then. I don't mind really unless what they had on the flyer for this show was at the top of the flyer it said COME SEE REAL AMERICAN HARDCORE. Today it's different yes, but was it better back then? Who is really to say?

Interesting question and I usually take it on a case by case basis and I'll admit inconsistency. I think it depends on the band, the motivation, etc... I rely on my gut feeling as to what seems sincere and what seems to be an opportunity to make money. Some are obviously going through the motions; some seem to be doing it for "legit" reasons... even if it's trying to cope with a mid-life crisis by playing music that meant a lot to you. I think of a band like The State. They had broken up for the better part of 20 years and were never that big a band to start with and aren't a huge band now. Even if the members hadn't been involved in hardcore for quite awhile, I imagine something must have stirred in them to do this again. The songs/lyrics are angry and it feels genuine.

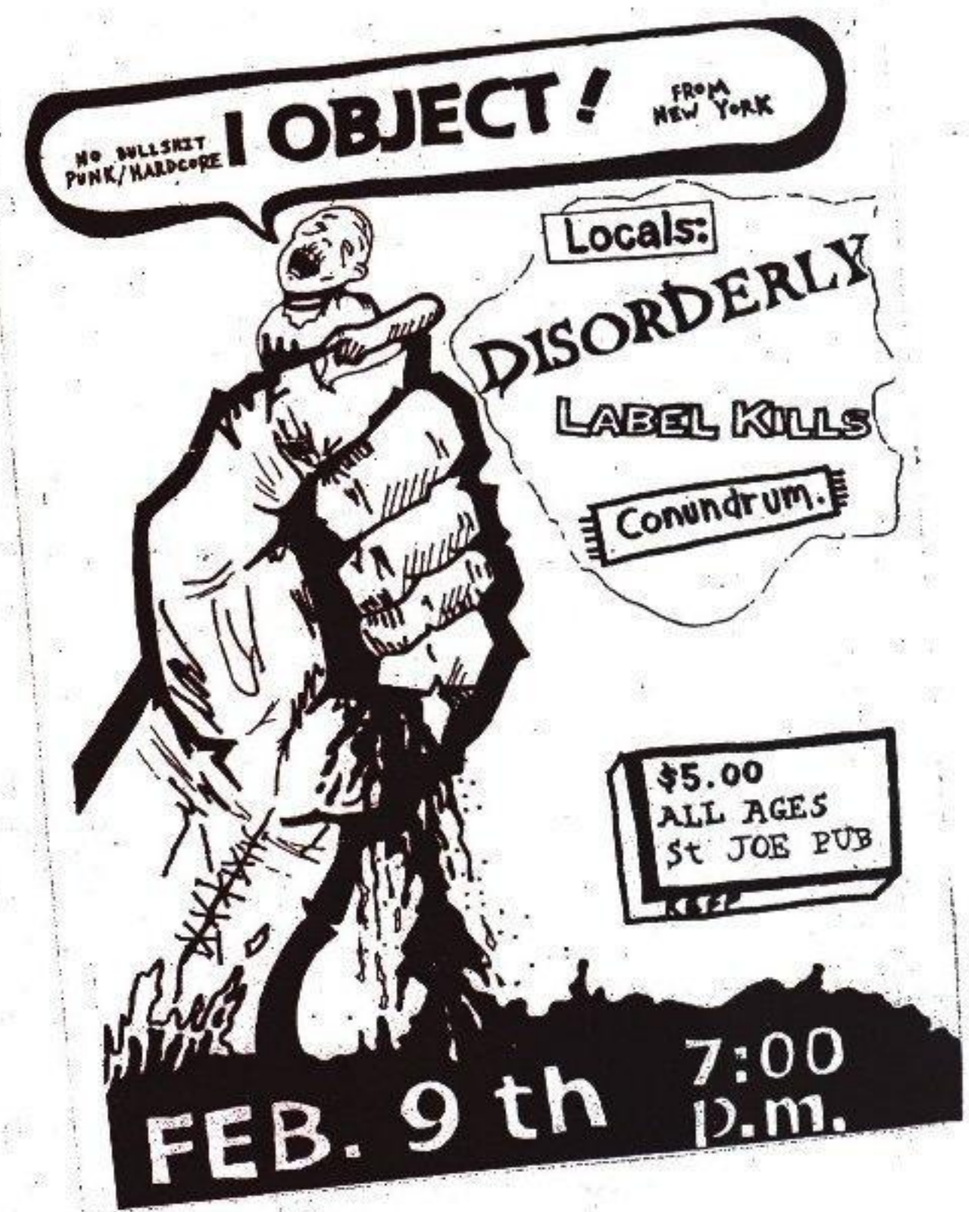
As I said in the last question, there does seem to be some inconsistency with people saying hardcore is dead, hardcore sucks but then they'll take their bands out on the road, anyway. That seems pretty cynical to me.

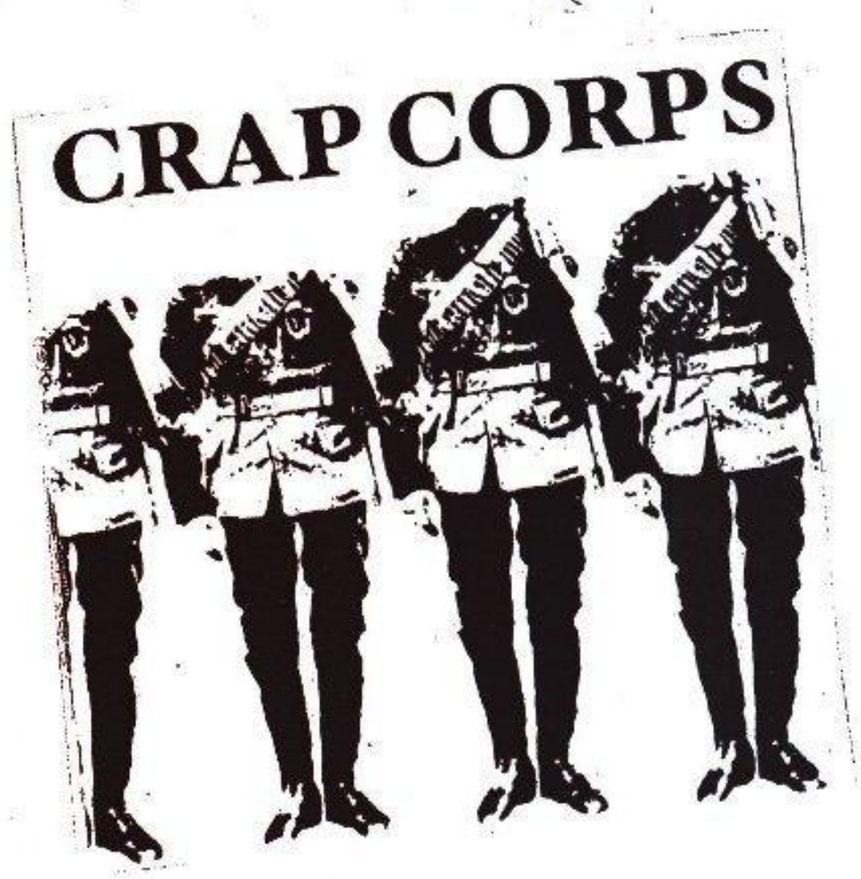
I'm a nostalgic sort--I admit I get a charge out of seeing some of the bands that meant a lot to me when I was younger and I've been pleasantly surprised at how good some of them have been. But nostalgia isn't enough--I still want to keep up with current punk and hardcore because it has a lot to offer to me. I don't expect everyone my age or even a small amount of people my age to go to DIY shows

Bringing up THE STATE is a great example. They do seem to really fucking mean it. Do you think that the new punks like 13 14-18 years old crowds should start looking into the 90's bands and today's bands for new inspiration and start looking at that as more of their history? Like me I am 29 years old and the 90's and today is my punk history so I can relate to that. I was not around in 82 going to shows but I was in 92 so that's what I can talk about.

I think people should look anywhere they want for inspiration; either new or old... it depends on your taste. I think it's great that the younger people are discovering punk, hardcore and garage music from all eras. No reason to limit yourself to your own era. I don't like the attitude that "this music is from my generation--you have no claim to it." Someone I know kind of resents younger people I know getting into music he's been listening to for 10-15 years. My answer is, so what? It means they're listening to good stuff instead of emo or screamo swill. He also says they'll move on in a year or two. That's the way it's always been. For a lot of people, it's a transitionary phase. So be it--that doesn't mean they're a bad person. I met my best friend through the hardcore scene, he moved on a long time ago but he's still the best guy in the world. It's never too late to get turned onto stuff. In my 40s, I've been exposed to a lot more foreign hardcore, both through touring bands and checking out the old stuff--I've been learning more about the history of that stuff.

It's hard for me to put myself in a younger person's shoes. I can't imagine what it's like for someone to have nearly 30 years of punk and hardcore to delve into. The music of my time was 60s and 70s rock, then punk. I imagine the generation before mine was into 50s rock 'n roll--I like some of that--the more driving, earthy stuff. It's not of my time but I can still enjoy it.





That's a great point about people moving on and taking what they wanted while into punk and hardcore. A good friend of mine always said he was going to move on someday, but when that time comes he is going to never forget all he learned from this. I also see nothing wrong with that.

So let's talk about the difference between now and then. I see books and movies like American Hardcore and it really makes me really try and look at the difference. I see it like this. HC punk when it all got started was a new thing so you seen it all over the place. I cannot watch an 80's movie without seeing a few mohawks and studded jackets. It seems it was way into the mainstream. For example bands like SUCIDAL TENDENCIES had MTV videos since the 1st record. It seemed that punk was a lot easier to find out about then. This may seem crazy and waaaay off, but it seems today its way harder to get into the real shit going in the hardcore punk scene. It seems that punk is played out all over the place but really punk is something you really have to search for. Since punk became big on the main stage it became so underground through the 90's that unless you are friends with people or really do some homework then you're lost in today's punk world. I see older people say "ya punk sucks blah blah blah" but they have no clue what's really going on. They talk about crazy shows back then, but we have just as crazy shit today it's just truly underground. Today we just have 2 or more kinds of punk and this has been going on since the early 90's-late 80's. It seems almost like when hardcore died for them it just got taken out of the mainstream and then the underground was formed. Since it was not new anymore there was no reason to place it so highly in the media so people forgot we even existed. A great example is the kind of people who made alot of the past punk movies. Like Steven Blush I heard that he was a artsy guy in the 80's that just happened to around for the hardcore thing. Then you have another new movie called PUNK ATTITUDE the guy who made that was a dj at some clubs in the UK. Today for somebody to make a GOOD punk/hardcore documentary they would have to be into what's going and not just an outsider looking in. I would love to know your thoughts on this.

Then vs. now? I disagree somewhat that it was easier back then to find out about stuff. For one thing, you didn't have an instant communication method with the internet. I relied on zines (MRR and Flipside, in particular) and punk radio. I would trade records with people overseas. It took a lot more effort back then, I think. It's true you have to dig a bit for the underground stuff now but you did back then, as well. There weren't as many distros, for one thing. You didn't see people with boxes of records at shows--the bands playing would have records, of course.

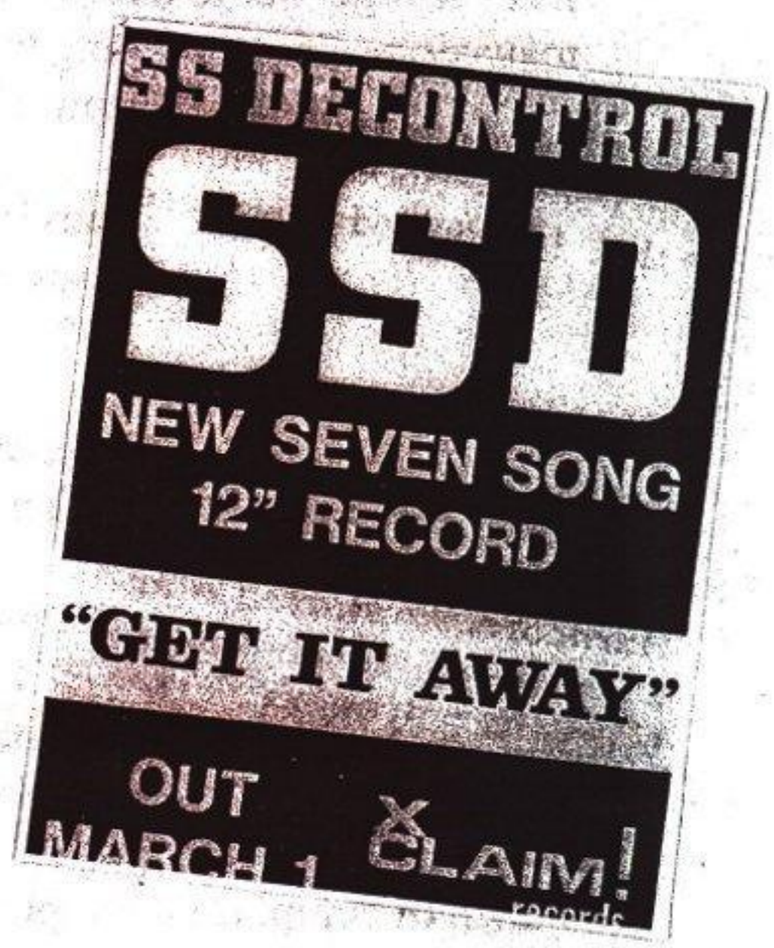
Another thing that's different is, back then, groups that were considered hardcore or part of that had a wide variety of styles--bands as diverse as the Dicks, Big Boys, Husker Du, Minutemen, Black Flag, DK's, Misfits and the "classic bands" such as Minor Threat, Poison Idea, SSD, etc... weren't all exactly alike yet each were a part of what was going on. These days, it seems a bit more homogenized. You have bands of fairly similar styles playing the same shows. There are all these divisions between fast hardcore, Bridge 9 style sXe epic crust or whatever you want to call it, grind, heavier stuff, etc. Sure, it was segmented back then but it seems more so now. It's unlikely you'd see someone into a band like Modern Life Is War showing up at a Career Suicide show.

You did have some bands that had larger-scale success such as Suicidal or Flag or the DKs... But you didn't see their videos in regular rotation on MTV... you'd see them on specialty programs at like 1 or 2 in the morning... or there was "New Wave Theater" on the USA network that would show some punk videos but this was still far from the mainstream.

No era has a monopoly on craziness. Sure, at the metal-core shows or crazies such as 9 Shocks, it can still get out of control, in the latter's case way more extreme than anything I saw back then. But at the more underground hardcore punk shows these days, it seems to have a slightly friendlier vibe.

Things are more organized now, as I said, through the internet. And don't forget cell-phones. That helps with touring, I'd imagine. I know that touring is still a grind, things always fall through and bands sleep on floors and rely on the kindness of people in different cities... that hasn't changed.

I think the revival of the DIY underground started in the 90s... a reaction to the mainstreaming of "punk" with Nirvana, Green Day et al. But in terms of the basic loud/fast hardcore punk, it's mainly revitalized itself in the past 6 or so years... it's been great to see because it kind of got me back to my own roots, remembered what got me excited about this music in the first place. Many people my age are jaded about it, dismiss



it out of hand. As I said before, no, it's not the same--we experienced the original explosion first-hand but that doesn't mean it's still not valid. And I'm impressed at how many people are making an effort to create an alternative. I think there are more people doing that now than in the early 80s...

In American Hardcore they talked about how it died in 86 and after that hardcore was no more. Can you comment on that at all? Like why then? Why that year? It seems strange since some of the bands where still going then and the NYC HC thing was just getting started.

... I don't know... I mean, in some ways, you could argue that the original hardcore started petering out by '84--in Boston, most of the original bands were gone or had turned metal. But some of those bands found a way to combine heavier music with hardcore and do it without getting cheesy--COC, for instance, went "crossover" with "Animosity" but were still a hardcore band, in my opinion, just probably not in the way that Blush defined it. Cro-Mags, of course, combined the two and didn't really sound like the bands that came during the original hardcore era but to not call them hardcore is dumb. Do Youth of Today, Warzone, Sick Of It All, Gorilla Biscuits, etc... all sound like they're rehashing the early 80s? Not really and it's hardcore. Slapshot and Wrecking Crew were the two main hardcore bands in Boston in the late 80s and they didn't sound exactly like the early 80s, either. They were all inspired by it but it didn't have exactly the same sound. I guess Steve just decided to move on and not pay attention to hardcore anymore. I mean, were Born Against hardcore? I think so. I think, in Steve's definition of hardcore-the raw, thrashy aesthetic, it did kind of disappear and not really completely revive itself until around the end of the '90s/early '00s and, of course, he thinks that's just "aping the past."

I have to admit that I also lost some interest in hardcore after the late 80s because it didn't have the same feel for me anymore. It did get diffuse, diluted, slowed down, heavier and didn't give me the rush of those old bands. I'd hear some good hardcore from time to time and never completely lost touch with it but I also expanded my tastes a bit--and I've now realized that a lot (but not all) of the stuff I was listening to then, in the early 90s, in particular, basically sucked and eventually returned to what I loved.

To me it seemed like in the 90's hardcore was being reinvented in some ways. Like bands like INFEST/DROPDEAD/LOS CRUDOS/ECONOCHRIST was this at a time when you where not into the scene? Or did you see this new wave of punk come about?

I knew about it to an extent... The kind of hardcore I was listening to then was the slow/sluggish kind. I tried to convince myself I liked it but I eventually took a step back and said, wow this stuff sucks. I was into some of the bands you mentioned and somewhat aware of it--I liked Econochrist and saw them in '92. I got the Infest 7" but it didn't have a strong impact on me. I completely missed the boat on Dropdead although I like their later records where they slowed it down a bit. I also missed the boat on Crudos until '96 or '97. I guess I wasn't paying enough attention to the underground as much as I should because I was seeing more "mainstream" shows or the more "bludgeoning" type of hardcore.

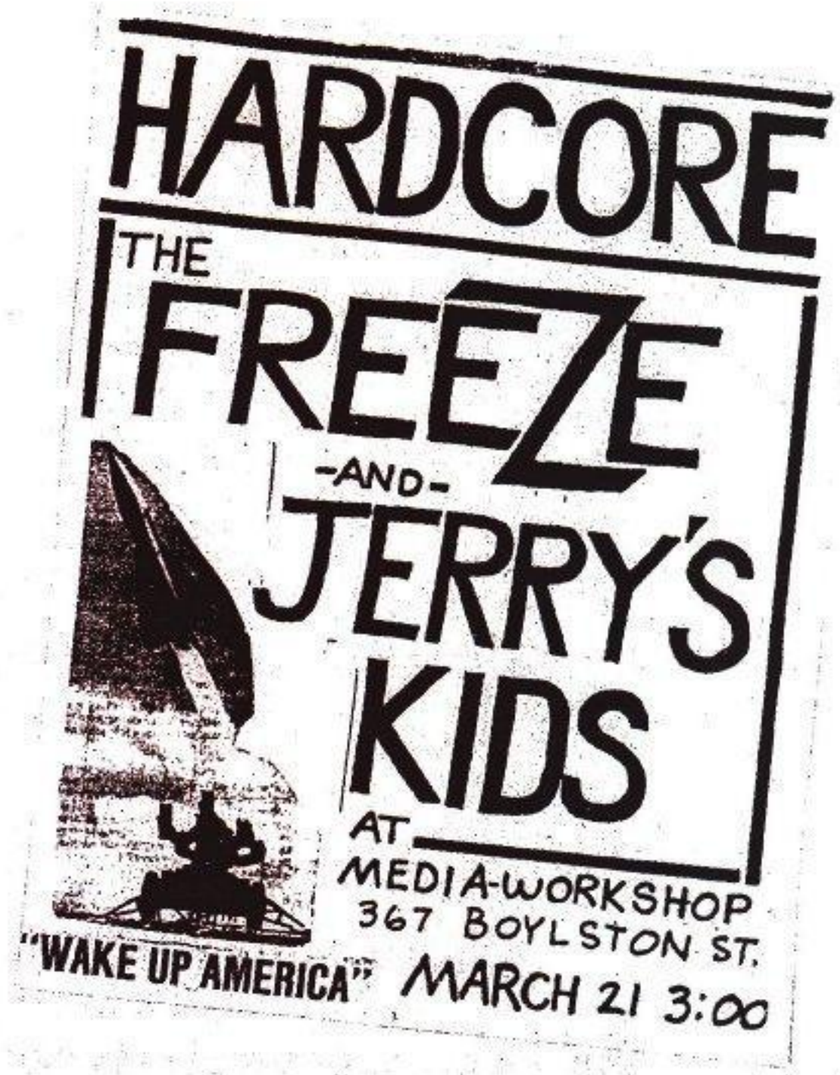
I think part of the reason I lost touch was I was working in a record store and didn't get to play much hardcore and that changed after my short foray into co-owning a record store and rediscovered my old records again.

I'm also ashamed to say that I had something of an obnoxious sense of privilege--I didn't like paying for shows, didn't expect to pay for records, which is a shitty attitude, I know... I kind of forgot the idea of DIY--supporting each other, etc... eventually, I figured that out again.

I didn't know about a lot of underground shows, either. Remember, this is pre-internet and I didn't really know a lot of the DIY hardcore punk kids then.

As I said, I lost touch for a number of reasons. My re-entry came through the spiky punk scene in the mid 90s--Unseen, Casualties, Violent Society, etc... then I got into the youth crew stuff a bit (Ten Yard Fight, Floorpunch) but that still had the same cliquish turn-off vibe I had in the late 80s. Finally, as I said, the music I loved made a comeback and, even if some of those records haven't held up as well as I thought they would, even after 3-4 years, this is still where I want to be.

To me the next wave of Hardcore came with bands like LIFES HALT/WHAT HAPPENED NEXT and NO REPLY. I saw the LIFES HALT/NO REPLY tour and that was like getting into hardcore all over again. This was 99 into 00. Did you see these bands and this time as big turn around in the hardcore scene? It seemed at



this point we kept it going with the politics of the 90's hc but brought back the basic hc punk sound.

That's exactly when I saw the turnaround... and maybe a year or two before that. Talk Is Poison, in '98 or so, really caught my ear and I got into some of the louder, nastier Bay Area bands. But, yeah, that connected with me. So did DS-13--seeing them in 2000, local bands such as Melee, other bands playing raw shit like Deathreat, Balance of Terror, Kill The Man Who Questions--these all contributed.

It seems kind of nice hearing people mentioning new bands like MELEE/DS-13 and bands like that. I am pretty burned out on the past and I look forward to the future and I am excited to see what's to come. Do you see punk and hardcore heading in a positive direction these days? Would you like to see something change maybe take a little from the old ways to make things improve today?

I'm actually getting a bit burnt out on straight thrash lately--I doubt I'll ever completely tire of it but I don't mind when I hear bands combine a few influences. I like bands that can mix together hardcore, punk and more garage type things, like Career Suicide, for instance. If they want to use an undistorted guitar sound, maybe embrace some late 70s punk, that's fine as well. As long as it's still got a kick to it.

I think it's already in a pretty positive direction. Trust me... it's NEVER going to be perfect. The one thing I don't like is cliquishness and pettiness. Some shows have the same bands over and over, other bands aren't given a chance. That becomes boring. I don't like the cliques--same high school bullshit and it makes me feel alienated at times. For something that's supposed to be so positive, there's often some pigheadeness... exclusionary attitudes... snottiness...

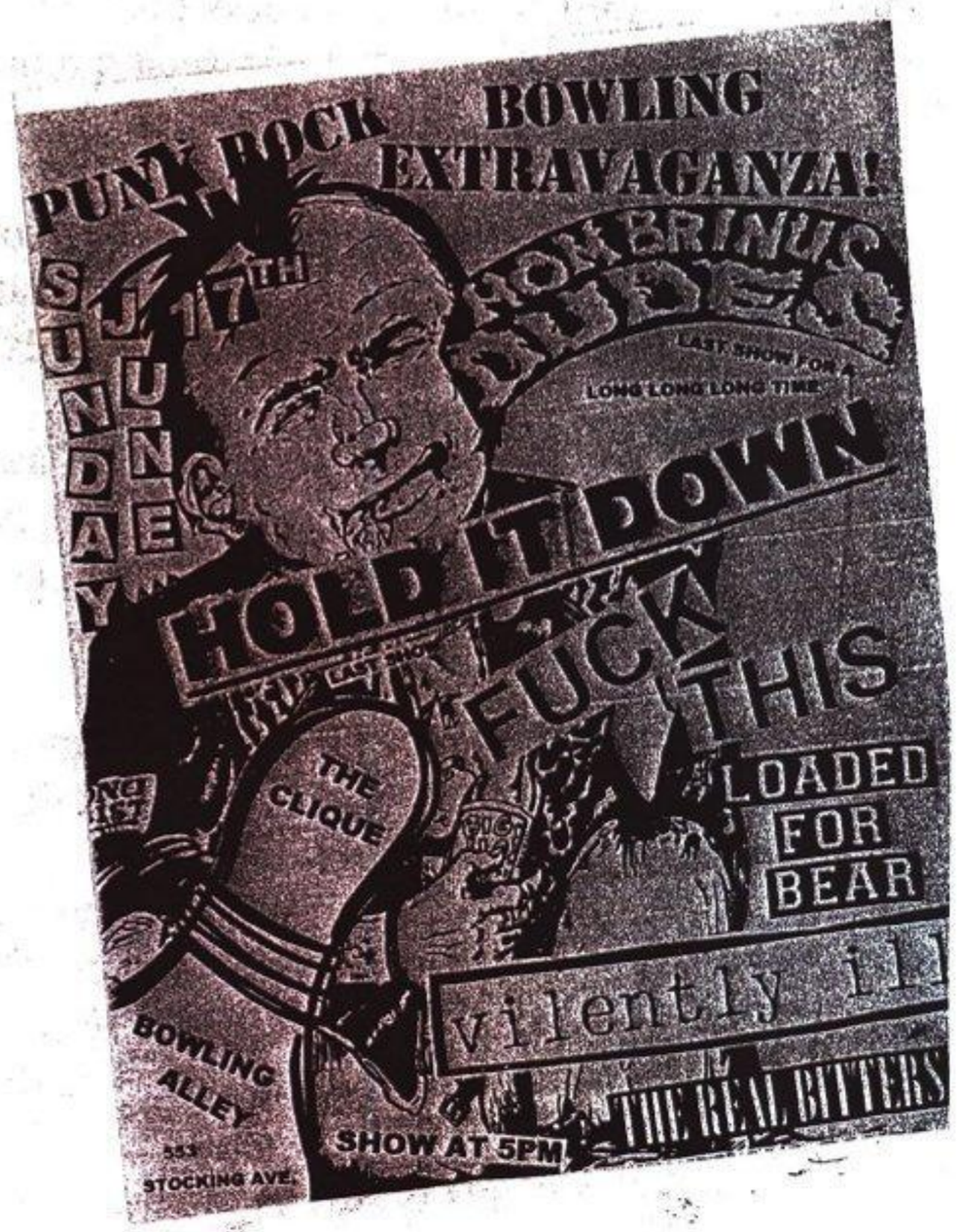
I know some people have the youthful idealism--hell, I did when I was younger. But in some ways, I'm old and jaded. I see the same things repeated time and time again. I try to maintain a positive attitude but also see the shallowness with a lot of it. You sing along, arms around each other and then go home and don't see each other until the next show, except to shit-talk on the internet.

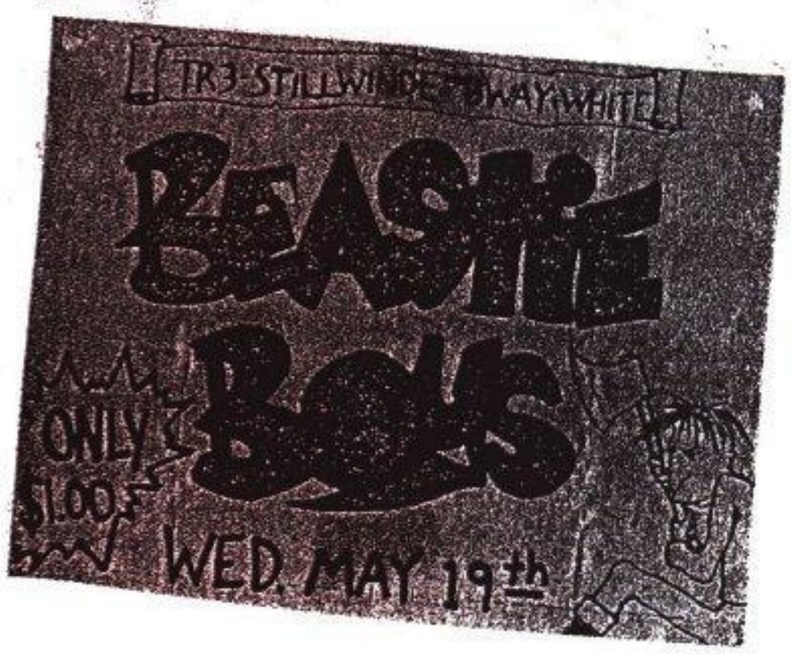
Still, hardcore is something that makes me feel good. The music, of course, but also feeling as though I'm on the same page as people, looking in the world in a certain way. I'm sure playing in a band, you find it gratifying that you're connecting with an audience, playing music that means something to them. I feel the same way when people will mention something I've written or played on the radio show. There's a connection there. An affirmation--we can all say "I don't care what people think--I'm doing it for myself" but I sometimes feel as though I need validation. Maybe it's a lack of self-esteem or insecurity but it's good to reminded on occasion that what you're doing is affecting others in a positive way. And if I get touched by something, I won't hesitate to tell that individual or band what it means to me.

One of the great things is I do enjoy meeting and hanging out with people, especially when we DO THINGS AWAY FROM A SHOW. Go out to eat, go sightseeing, even just relax and shoot the shit at my house. Personal contact.

Those are all positive things... that are what keeps me coming back.

That's a great answer. I wonder if what I am doing in hc punk really means anything. So many people coming down on different people for different reasons and so many kids coming and going. It can be hard to really have faith in all this shit sometimes. But yes when you meet people and have that bond through hardcore punk you then know it's worth it. I also look forward to the hanging out just as much as the show. That's really what keeps me going also. All in all hardcore and punk can't be dead or even close when it means so much to so many. To think in some basement some place some kids are playing super fast out of tune songs about how cops suck. The passion is still there a lot of us are still around. One thing I think is truly great about punk rock is dedication we have. I have been into punk for 15 years and you many more. People change with the wind these days so that alone is a huge accomplishment. One of the last things i am going to ask is with all these movies and books coming out none have really been made by active punk people. So when is the Al book coming out? We need a good now and then book by somebody who been around and is still around.





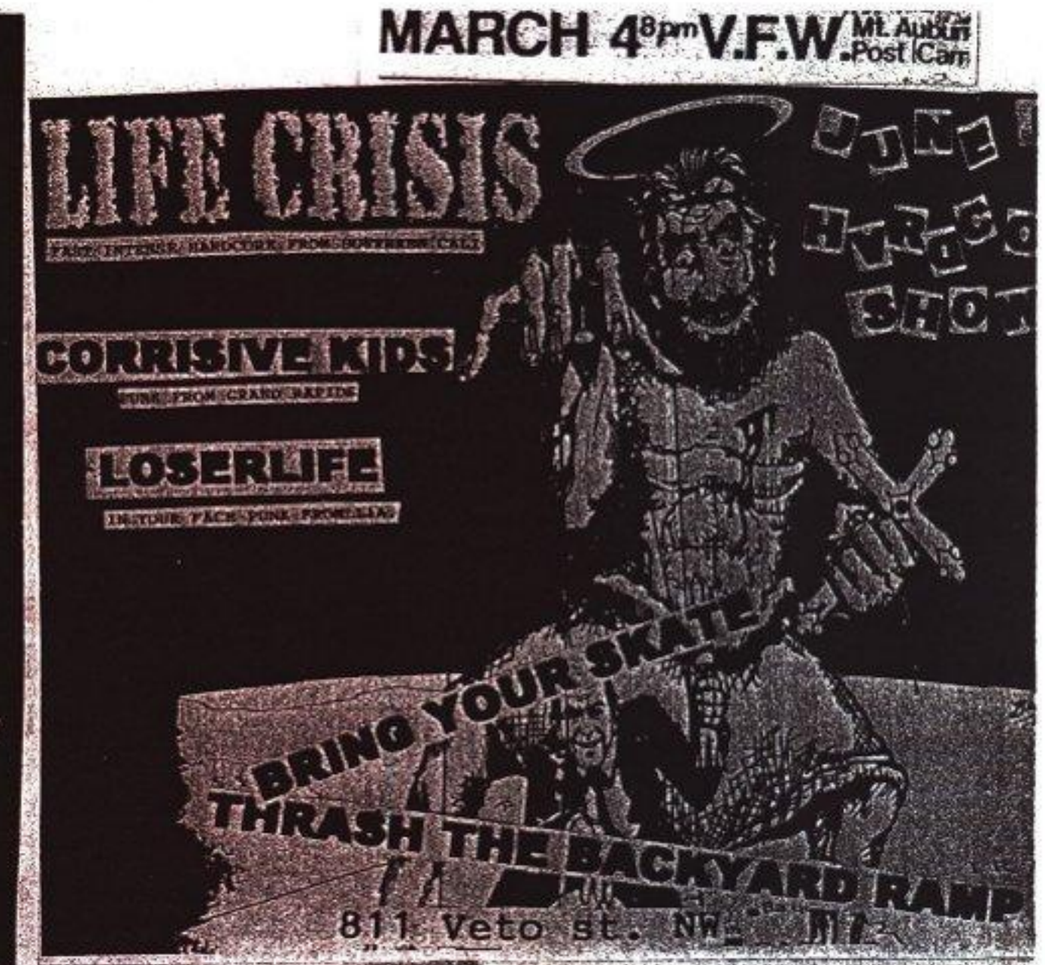
Then this last question

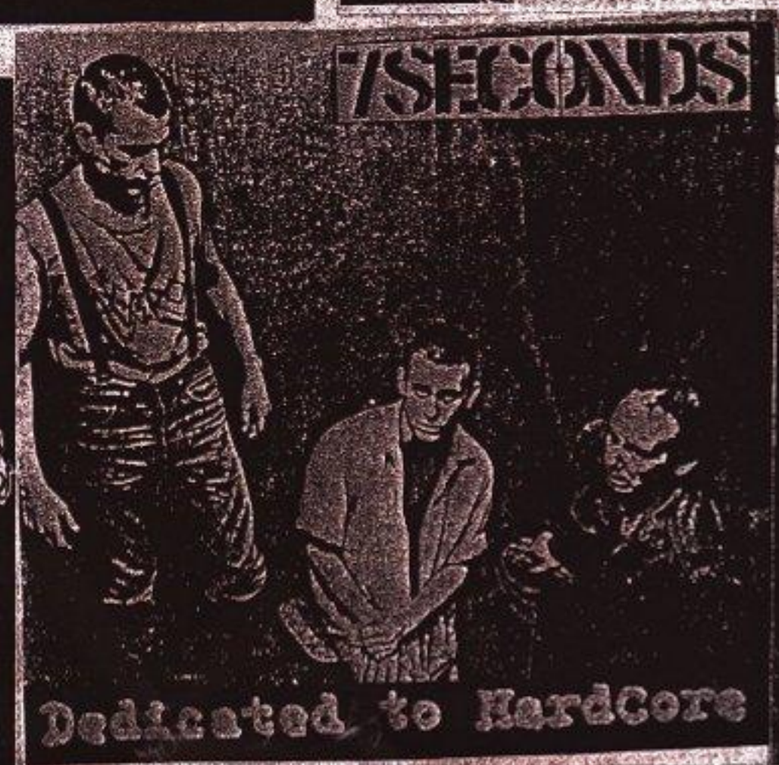
Thanks al for the time to do this I really enjoyed reading your input on today's hc punk scene. Please leave us with some last words about all of this. Any cool bands today and cool bands of yesterday that kid should check out? Any suggestions for the next wave of punk rockers?

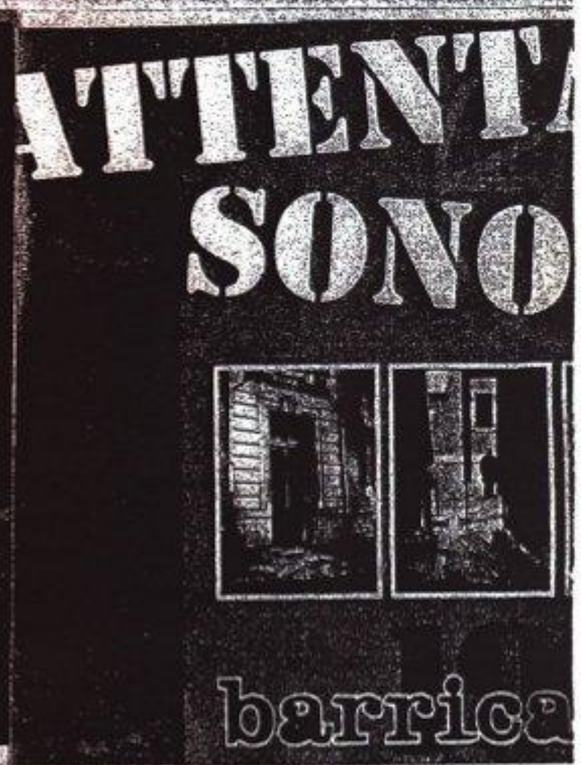
I think we all question what we do from time to time. I always am. Sometimes, it's hard to get motivated. I'd rather watch the ballgame or listen to some old music and not deal with the review pile. Motivation! There's less willingness or desire to deal with the mundane tasks of putting out my zine, especially transcribing interviews [an aside to not put in the interview--you know about that first hand :-)]

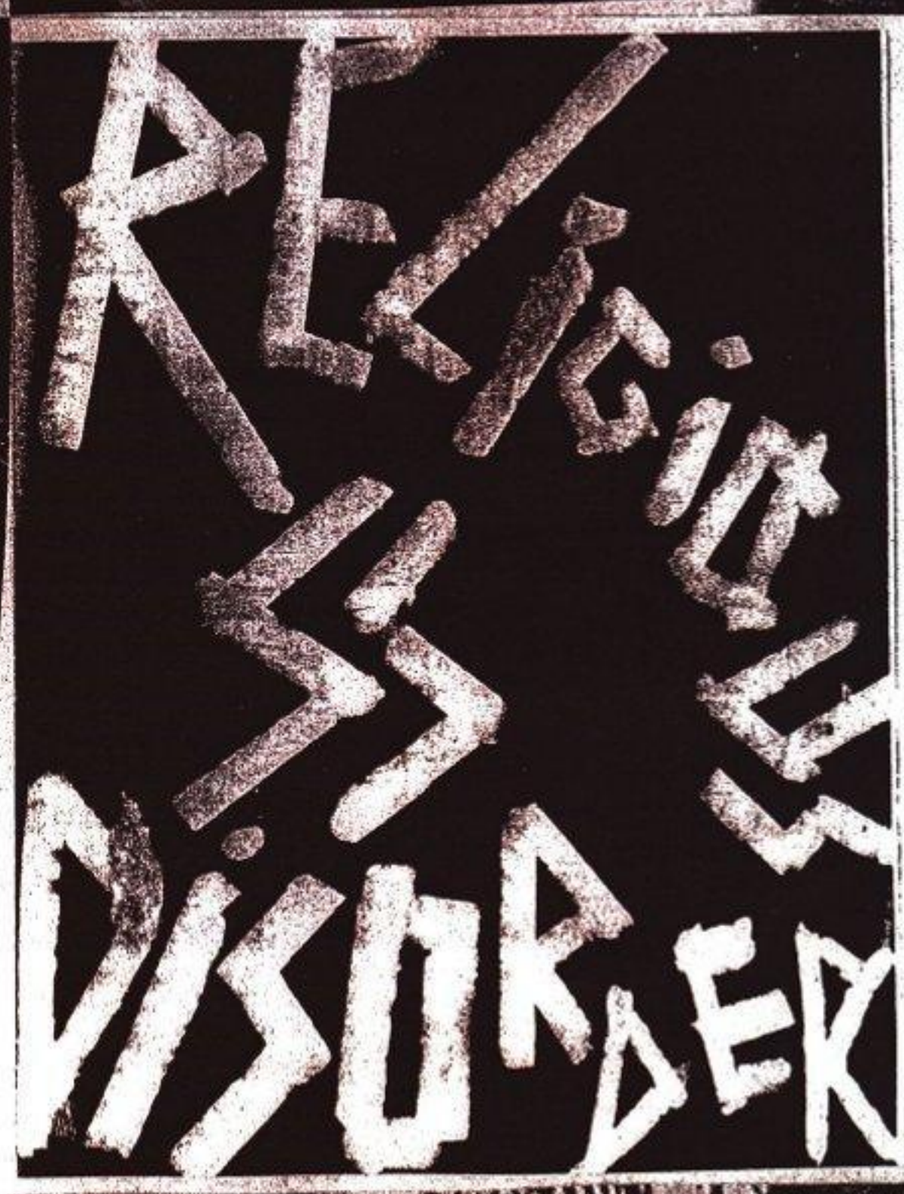
as for the Al book, I actually have offers to do two--one more or less a musical autobiography. It's not intended to be any sort of comprehensive history of hardcore, just my own take. The other is some kind of Suburban Voice anthology although I don't know how much I'd want to include from my early issues because, trust me, they're pretty cringeworthy.

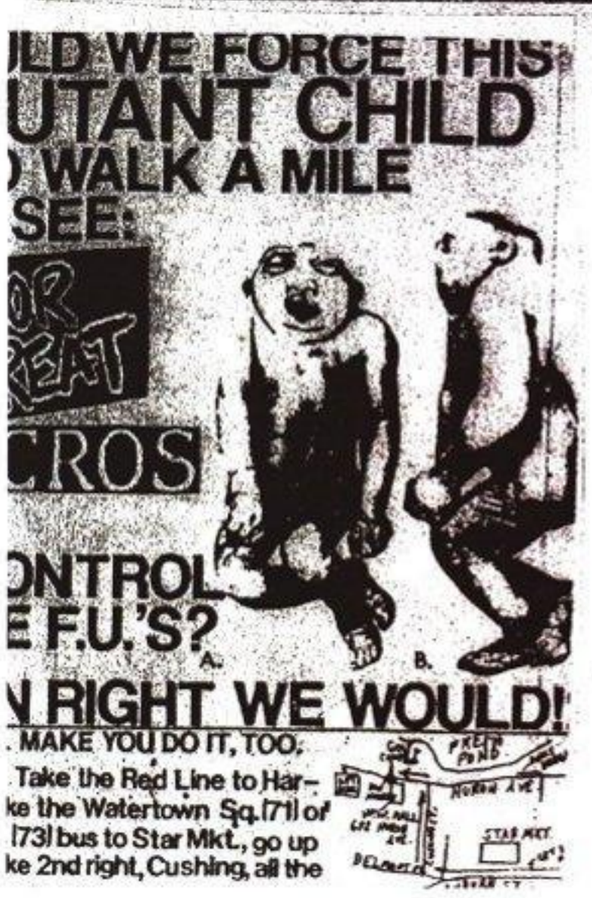
Closing words? Thanks for the interview and, as the Chinese fortune cookie message above my desk says, always be true to yourself.











CROSS LAWS- demo
Some killer hardcore from North Carolina of all places. There seems to be some awesome stuff from that area that's for sure. This is some old style hardcore that sounds like could have came from Italy in the early 80's. 6 songs, all awesome, all fast paced, I wish this had lyrics, maybe I just did not get any with mine. But the song titles are cool and seems like they are on the same page as me, so I hope to read some lyrics in the next release from this band. This demo has been pressed to 7" so try and hunt that down.
Dlupton79@gmail.com

CUST

NO CONNECTION- demo
Here we have barb from I OBJECT playing some killer pop punk. Barb has such a great voice it really just takes you away from whatever you may be doing at the time. The music on this demo is a real highlight for me because it's so simple they are just playing great simple songs. You know when you are listing to some poppy song and it's really catchy then they break into some shitty really slow part with a crappy guitar lead and some bad drum fill, well this demo has none of that. The songs are short and awesome and they even toss in a DISCOUNT cover. And as you can always expect from barb you get great lyrics. Great demo check it out.
136 ridgewood dr
Syracuse ny 13206

SFN- demo
Some in your face fastcore with awesome burly INFEST style vocals that will make you kill people. The demo is recorded pretty rough but I kinda like that part of it. Lyrics are good it's nice to see bands like this singing about stuff other pizza and parties. My life is not all pizza and parties so I like to listen to band with something to say and they have something to say. If you like bands like INFEST/MAN IS THE BASTERD you will dig this for sure.

GHADDER- demo
Heavy as fuck INFEST style hardcore. This band is great because the lyrics are great. Also the name is taken from a mythical creature that would eat your balls and that rules. It's just nice to see a band that is fucking pissed. I really hope to see more from this band in the future and I hope this is not just a demo few shows kind of band. Hardcore needs more bands like this.
pawntakesqueen@buffalo.com

SICK FIX- demo
So many good fast bands coming out today, this being one of the best. This is some intense hardcore from DC. This has Chris from MAGRUDERGRIND on drums and the guitar player from CRISPUS ATTUCKS. The lyrics deal with some intense women's issues that I think people need to read. I love it when punk lyrics can make you uncomfortable, then you know the lyrics are really punk. The only thing about this band I did not like was they did a PROJECT X cover when I saw them, and that band sucks.

ABOUT TO SNAP- "already dead" 7"
If you like bands like WHAT HAPPENS NEXT then this is a must. I am so stoked on the new breed of fastcore bands coming out. I really love the later 90's into the 2000 because of all the killer stuff that was coming out. You had fast bands that where singing about real issues but still playing that basic punk hardcore that I love. This band is one of those bands. They also have a strong STRUNG UP sound that comes out a lot in the vocals. This band rules don't miss out.
A389 recordings
Po box 12058
Baltimore md
21281

SHIT IS

MAGRUDERGRIND rehashed lp
The cover alone with make you want to buy this record. It's perfect, it just grabs you and makes you know right away this is some ripping hardcore. If you are already in the now about this band then you may remember some the lyrics on the past couple records were not so great. Well this time around they put together some quality songs with great well written lyrics. I think this record will be a classic fastcore record, everything about it rips.
6 weeks
225 lincoln ave
Cotati,ca 94931

DEATHCYCLE s/t lp
This is so far my favorite record of this year and I don't see anybody passing it anytime soon. I listen to this record about 2 times a day. I really think that punk should have something to say and have some fucking energy to back it up. This band has all that. The record just screams at you so fucking loud that you can't ignore it. This band is to me what punk is all about. With lyrics like PUNK IS A JOKE/ PROVE ME WRONG/ START TONIGHT/ FIGHT FOR WHAT RIGHT/ PUNK IS A JOKE. Bands like THE PIST will come to mind when you hear this. This is everything I want punk to be like. This I hope will inspire many kids to get off their asses and do something.
Chainsaw safety records
Po box 260318 bellerose, ny 11426

Not as many reviews as I wanted to do this issue but I was strapped for time with my deadline coming closer. I just took a bunch stuff I think rules and thought I would bring it to your attention. So many good bands today, but remember don't try and keep up, just sit back with you favorite record and listen. Read the lyrics, admire the art, slow down and enjoy what punk and hardcore have to offer, and shut of the tv that shit is boring anyway.

CUSTOMERS- shut up we're dead demo

I think this is all this band did: one cdr with some new songs tossed in. This is some to the point basic punk rock. All punk very little hardcore. Every song has tons of hooks and they have that great clean guitar sound going for them also. This band is very unheard of, but I heard this may become a LP in the future so that would be very cool. If you like bands like NO HOPE FOR THE KIDS or any of that Denmark stuff then check this out.
xxgluestickxxbrigadexx@yahoo.com

CIVIC PROGRESS- demo

This rips. Awesome hardcore played the right way. This has people from bands like THE BREAKS. A lot of the shit today sounds so retro and so tried and boring, but this sounds like the days of old but you can tell it's from today and that's a good thing. I have been playing this a ton it's too short and the songs are too good. This is for fans of hardcore real hardcore that is so check it out.

NIGHTSTICK JUSTICE- demo

In your face he punk with really cool vocals. Think old Boston hardcore with a touch of modern ness tossed in. The lyrics are your basic "I'm pissed off", theme which is cool because I can relate. You know the deal fuck the cops, fuck my parents, I hate the world, you can't go wrong with that so check this band out.
Thrashmoney211@yahoo.com

CONQUEST FOR DEATH- front row tickets to the Armageddon cd

Here we have ¾ of WHAT HAPPENS NEXT and the drummer from ASSFORT and another guitar player. WHN was a huge part of my life one of all time favorites that's for sure. This band brings more of that style to the table. More fast as fuck music with tons and tons of hooks. Also some fucking great pissed lyrics that will get you moving in the right direction. This band fucking rules. They will be on tour this summer with BREAKFAST from Japan so don't miss out this is some killer shit for sure. To me this band is everything that's great about hardcore. Expect this to be a one sided 12" out on PUNKS BEFORE PROFITS soon.
Wajlemac
Po box 8039
Emeryville,ca
94662

CRAP CORPSE- s/t 7"

Here comes some raging punk rock that to me sounds like it could have come out in the early 90's in the bay area. You know bands like FILTH/BLATZ and a slew of others with that sound. This band just plays punk with great punk lyrics. Comes with a cool screen printed cover .
Cassette kill records
300 n. brighton
Kansas city ,mo
64123

HJERTE STOP- s/t 7"

Do you remember the band YOUNG WASTENERS? Well this has some of those people in it. This band comes from Denmark and they play in your face punk rock with a ton of energy and hooks. If you where a fan of YW then you will also be a fane of this. Great looking record also with cool lyrics.
Kick n punk records

NO GOAL- demo 7"

So this band had a brief run but they did get to record this killer demo that has made it to 7". I have to say this is some awesome hardcore. If you like bands like YOUTH OF TODAY then this you will dig this. This has the singer from THEY LIVE so expect some pissed lyrics and intense in your face vocals with no sign of letting up. This shit rules.
Third party records

7 SECONDS- "dedicated to hardcore" 7"

After listening to this record I recall why this band is so great. This is an old demo with some of the best tunes this band ever did. Just some basic hardcore with great lyrics that still relate to today's world. I think this is a bootleg but try and track it down it's way worth it. The entire record rules, and if it is a boot they did a good job putting it together and I am very happy it's out and people can check it out.

GERIATRIC UNIT- "nuclear accidents" 12"ep

Some old cats from England decided to start a band and get a really funny name. That's the only thing funny about this band. The lyrics are fucking killer speaking about personal struggle, and they will make you want to burn the world down to the fucking ground. Don't miss out on this band. This is some classic hardcore played perfect all fast no slow. Think HERESY or RIPCORD then you will get an idea.
Plastic bomb records

one of the guys from Tæves place until the early hours.
Next day the same bands should play in Esbjerg, a fisherman/port town some hours ride from Århus. We was stopped by the cops and they looked pretty surprices when 13 people jumped out of the small van. We didn't get any bill, but we had to take the train. In Esbjerg I also found a small scene. Here they also had a Youthhouse and punk and hardcore concerts. Also here there was a few punx, but they didn't seem to be as active as in Århus and Odense. They told us that

it was pretty hard to walk on the street as a punk, because there is so many no-brains in Esbjerg. The day after I went home, and I still feel these days party in my body.

Now we are reaching the end of my tale. If you are interested in knowing more about the scene, getting some records or just getting in touch with somebody from Denmark, you can either mail me at naren@punks.org or visit one of the homepages in the list ind the end of the article. I will now make a list of records released in the new wave of punk (I don't have an exact list of records from the old days, and anyway it is sold out. There is more records from before 1999, some of them you can probably still get. If you are interested in finding out more about the scene before 1999 contact www.scrotum.dk. I hope the list is more or less complete, and if I forgot something, sorry! Here it is:

1999:

Intoxicated Bugs/Scrotum 7", Femfingreopirøv wecords, 1999:
IB plays fast Hcpunk, Scrotum more 90'style hardcore.
Contact: mr.bug@abl1926.dk or www.scrotum.dk

Guddommelig Galskab 12", "Dansk Punk Under Al Kritik", Duks Records, 1999:
A snotty drunken classic with danish lyrics. Original sold out but repressed at Fåk Pladeselskaber.
Contact: www.faak.dk

Compilation 12" + 7", "Ungdomshuset Bli'r", 1999
Supportrecord for the biggest squatvenue in Copenhagen Ungdomshuset with: Paragraf 119, Ballroom Bozos, Guddommelig Galskab, Jouhnny Cock, Hul, Slightly Annoyed, Peter Bo, Skalar, Suck-a-Bug, Amdi Petersens Arme, Intoxicated Bugs, Article Nine (S), A Gun for Jennifer, Skeletor (S), Headup, Certain Death, Nicolas Hill and the Universals, Perfect, Hellroute 16, Scrotum, Zonked, Subspecies
Contact: www.ungeren.dk

2000:

Snipers 7", "Blood Sucking Freaks", Kick'n Punch records, 2000
Downbeat horrorpunk with english lyrics.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Amdi Petersens Armé 7", "E.P", Kick'n Punch records, 2000
Fast oldschool hardcore without metalizer. Danish lyrics.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Paragraf 119 12", "Støtteplade for Anarchist Black Cross København", 45rpm, Kick'n Punch records, 2000
Anarchopunk with male/female voices and riotprovoking lyrics in danish.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Compilation 12", "Fåk København", Fåk Pladeselskaber, 2000
Punk and underground from Copenhagen: Hul, Ballroom Bozos, Katar Køter, Scrotum, Snipers, Guddommelig Galskab, Headfall Attitudes, Intoxicated Bugs, Ruca, Skalar, Suck-a-Bug… Sold out.
Contact: www.faak.dk

2001

Skalar 12", "Ska Ska Ikke", Fåk Pladeselskaber, 2001
DIY ska with great danish political lyrics.
Contact: www.skalar.dk

HUL 12", "Den Danske Ungdom", NineLivesRecords, 2001
One of the best punkrecords ever. Four young angry kids singing about a fucked up world in danish.
Contact: www.faak.dk

Paragraf 119 7", "Musik til Ulempe", Kick'n Punch records, 2001
Even more angry and faster anarchopunk, with a pinch of crust.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Snipers 7", "From the Tombs", Kick'n Punch records /Agressive Turns, 2001
More sing-a-long horrorpunk.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

2002

Skalar 12", "Sku ska du?", 2002
Ska-reggae-balkan-punk-party
Contact: www.faak.dk

URO 7", "Revolutions Romantik", Kick'n Punch records, 2002
Crusty anarchopunk with male/female singing and lyrics in danish, english and spanish.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Incontrollados 7", Hvem vil det gavne?", Kick'n Punch records/MAXIMUM OVERDRIVE, 2002
Fast oldschool hardcore with political lyrics in danish.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Hellroute 16/The Headfall attitudes 7", Split, Rocking Retards Production, 2002
To Punk'n rollbands with english lyrics.
Contact: rockingretard@hotmail.com

Paragraf 119 12", "Du har ikke en chance…", Kick'n Punch records, 2002
The last record from them, and the fastest and most crusty.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Los Retardos 7", "At the Club", Rocking Retards Production, 2002
Drunk'n roll with english lyrics
Contact: rockingretard@hotmail.com

Amdi Petersens Armé 7", "Blod ser mere virkeligt ud på film", 45 rpm, Kick'n Punch records, 2002
The second and unfortunately last record, maybe even greater than the first.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Young Wasteners 12", "We got Ways", 45 rpm, Kick'n Punch records /Agressive Turns, 2002
Some kind of oldschool LA punk/HC with lyrics in english.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

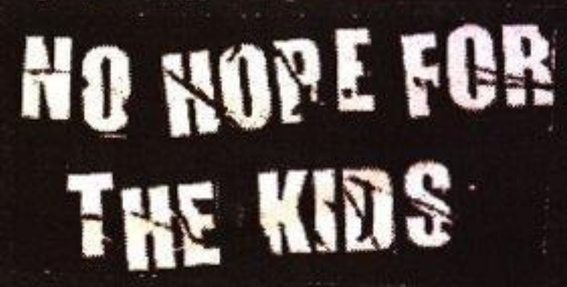
Asbest 7", "Nyt Blod Ep", Hjernespind, 2002
Crazy APA-style oldschoolhardcore with danish lyrics.
Contact: hjernespind@hotmail.com or http://kicknpunch.com

2003

Compilation 2x12", "Fåk Danmark", Fåk Pladeselskaber, 2003
Punk, ska and underground from all over the country:
No Fucking Talent, Grindabo, Sløseri der skader os Alle, Fuk Polic, The Wad'ers, Alladins First Fuck, Scum of the Earth, Yabollox, Arrigt Antræk, Incontrollados, Ballroom Bozos, Brave Cowards, Tæve, Guddommelig Galskab, Poser, Kråst, Cyste'm, Los Retardos, The Jerkoffing Jerks, The Headfall Attitudes, Soreazis, Scrotum, MNA, Ruca, The Real Moneymakers, Suck-a-Bug, Magtværk, Echo, Fuck Lars, Skalar, The Movement
Contact: www.faak.dk

Compilation 2x7", "København i Ruiner", Kick'n Punch records, 2003
Different Copenhagen punk, grind and crust: Snipers, Amdi Petersens Arme, Paragraf 119, Lokum, Aktiv Dødshjælp, Young Wasteners, Incontrollados, Gorilla Angreb, Uro, No Hope for the Kids, Slave, Asbest
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com

Uro 12", "Requiem", Plague Bearer, 2003
Original symphonic crust with cello and male/female vokal
Contact: mareridt@ofir

The Movement 7", "Hardmod Internationalist EP", Weird System, 2003
Revolutionary workingclass unity hardmod with great musicians.
Contact: www.weirdsystem.de

No Hope for the Kids 12", No Title", Kick'n Punch records, 2003
A great record with melodic down-beat cold war punk with lyrics in danish and english.
Contact: http://kicknpunch.com